

**TOWN MANAGER**  
Ken Deal

**TOWN CLERK**  
Pamela Mills

**TOWN ATTORNEY**  
Tom Brooke



**MAYOR**  
Charles Seaford

**TOWN COUNCIL**  
Don Bringle  
Arthur Heggins  
Brandon Linn  
Rodney Phillips  
Steve Stroud

## **TOWN OF CHINA GROVE**

### **A regular meeting of the China Grove Town Council**

**Tuesday, April 6, 2021**  
**6:00 p.m.**

**China Grove Town Hall**  
**China Grove, North Carolina**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Seaford called the regular meeting of April 6th, 2021 to order. He led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Seaford called roll. All council members were present with the exception of Mr. Linn. There was a quorum.

Mr. Heggins made a motion to adopt the agenda. Mr. Phillips seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

#### **Consent Agenda items:**

- a) Approve Minutes from March 2nd, 2021 regular meeting
- b) Adopt New Personnel Policy
- c) Adopt Ordinance Closing Northbound Lane of Main Street for Cruise In

Mr. Bringle made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Heggins seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

#### **CITIZENS COMMENT**

None

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- I) Proclamation Honoring Jesse C. Carson Girls Varsity Basketball Team

Mayor Seaford read the proclamation aloud honoring the Jesse C. Carson Girls Varsity Basketball Team.

- II) Proclamation Recognizing K9 Officer

Mayor Seaford read the proclamation aloud recognizing the Retirement of K9 Officer Kenzi. Chief Deal also presented Officer Washam and K9 Officer Kenzi with a plaque honoring her with her faithful service to the Town.

- III) Set Date and Time for Budget Planning Meeting

Mr. Bringle made the motion to set the Budget Planning Meeting for May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. Mr. Phillips seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

- IV) Discuss Section 46-4 of Town Ordinance

Mayor Seaford stated the town receives complaints on a weekly basis on limb pick up. He stated the board and staff has discussed several changes to the ordinance to help with the amount of complaints we receive. Mr. Deal stated the way the ordinance was adopted was for yard maintenance. He stated it was never intended to take down three or four trees and stacking them at the curb for pick up. He stated the ordinance does not give us the ability to pick and

choose what limbs we collect and don't. He suggests purchasing a claw truck to pick up everything that residents put out. He stated this would eliminate all the complaints we receive. Mayor Seaford asked how much a claw truck would cost. Mr. Deal stated around \$150,000.00. He stated once a year we may have to rent a grinder to get rid of all the limb debris.

Mr. Linn came in at 6:15 pm.

Mr. Bringle stated another complaint we receive if the limbs are collected the town does not sweep up the small debris left. He stated an amendment is needed to help citizens out. He stated the next big step will be disposal. Mayor Seaford stated Spencer gives the mulch away. Mr. Bringle stated Salisbury does the same.

Mr. Stroud had presented a draft modification of the ordinance to the board with the addition in red:

Sec. 46-4. - Tree limbs and yard trimmings.

- (a) *Collection schedule.* The method for collecting tree limbs and yard trimmings within the corporate limits of the town will be on a call basis only. This will be handled through the issuance of a work order.
- (b) *Location of tree limbs/yard trimmings.* Tree limbs and yard trimmings must be placed behind the sidewalk or curb and out of the public right-of-way so as to not impede stormwater drainage, pedestrian traffic, or vehicular traffic. It shall be unlawful for any owner or occupant of any property to cause or allow such debris to be placed in the public right-of-way, or to allow such debris to remain after it has been ordered removed.
- (c) *General disposal.* In order for the town to properly remove limbs from the customer's property, the resident must ensure that all of the tree limbs meet the following criteria:
  - (1) Limbs shall not be longer than six feet in length.
  - (2) Limbs shall not be larger than six inches in diameter.
  - (3) Limbs shall be stacked, but end facing the street, on or near curb for easy access to collection truck.
  - (4) Small limbs and twigs shall be bundled and tied or place in bags or other containers. Their weight shall not to exceed 50 pounds.
  - (5) Yard trimmings shall be placed in bags or other containers. Their weight shall not exceed 50 pounds.
- (d) *Items not collected.*
  - (1) The town will not pick up debris that is the result of cropping or topping of trees, the felling of trees, tree stumps, or the clearing of undeveloped property. It shall be unlawful for any owner or occupant of any property to cause or allow debris that is the result of cropping or topping of trees, the felling of trees, tree stumps, or the clearing of undeveloped property to be placed in the public right-of-way or curbside, or to allow such debris to remain after it has been ordered removed.
  - (2) The town will not pick up debris from trees that was removed by contractors or persons for hire. It shall be unlawful for any owner or occupant of any property to cause or allow debris resulting from work conducted by hired labor to be placed in the public right-of-way or curbside, or allow such debris to remain after it has been ordered removed.
  - (3) Any senior citizen age 65 or over may ask for a waiver of sec. (1) above as long as a family member, Church group or other non-profit group did the cutting/trimming at no charge. All material shall be less than 50 lbs. each. The town manager and town maintenance director shall have authority to grant this waiver.

Mr. Bringle made a motion to adopt addition (d) (3) of Sec. 46-4. - Tree limbs and yard trimmings. Mr. Stroud seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Bringle stated he has notice over the last several years Terry Thomas has planted trees and flowers at intersections in town. He stated he planted trees and flowers on the corner of Church Street and Main Street, and on

the corner of Bostian Street and East Centerview Street. He would like to recognize him for the work he has done and still does to improve the look of these intersections.

#### **COUNCIL UPDATES**

Mayor Seaford stated he has several meetings lined up this month with the owners of the property off of Shue Road, St. Johns Church, and Cabarrus Rowan Health Center. He stated on April 14<sup>th</sup> he is meeting with Don Altman with Cabarrus Rowan Health Center to tour the facility. He stated he has asked Mr. Altman to come to the May meeting and present to the Council what all they do in our community. He stated the town has several organizations that reach out to the less fortunate residents such as this Cabarrus Rowan Health Center, Carolina Cognitive Care and Main Street Mission.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Stroud made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Linn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

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**Pamela L. Mills, CMC**  
**Town Clerk**

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**Charles Seaford**  
**Mayor**